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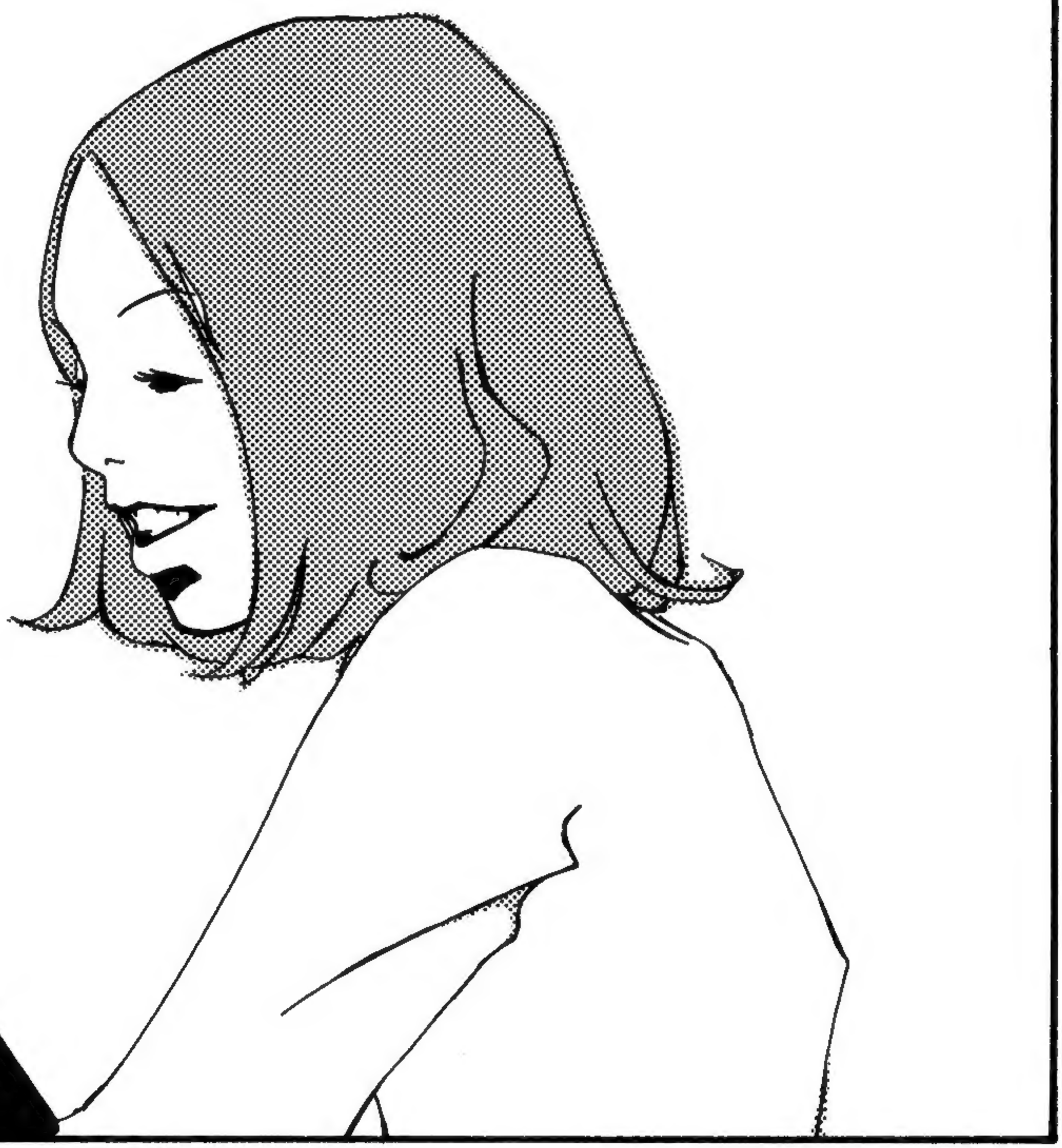
The End of a Friendship



THE TIME'S BEEN UP LONG AGO.

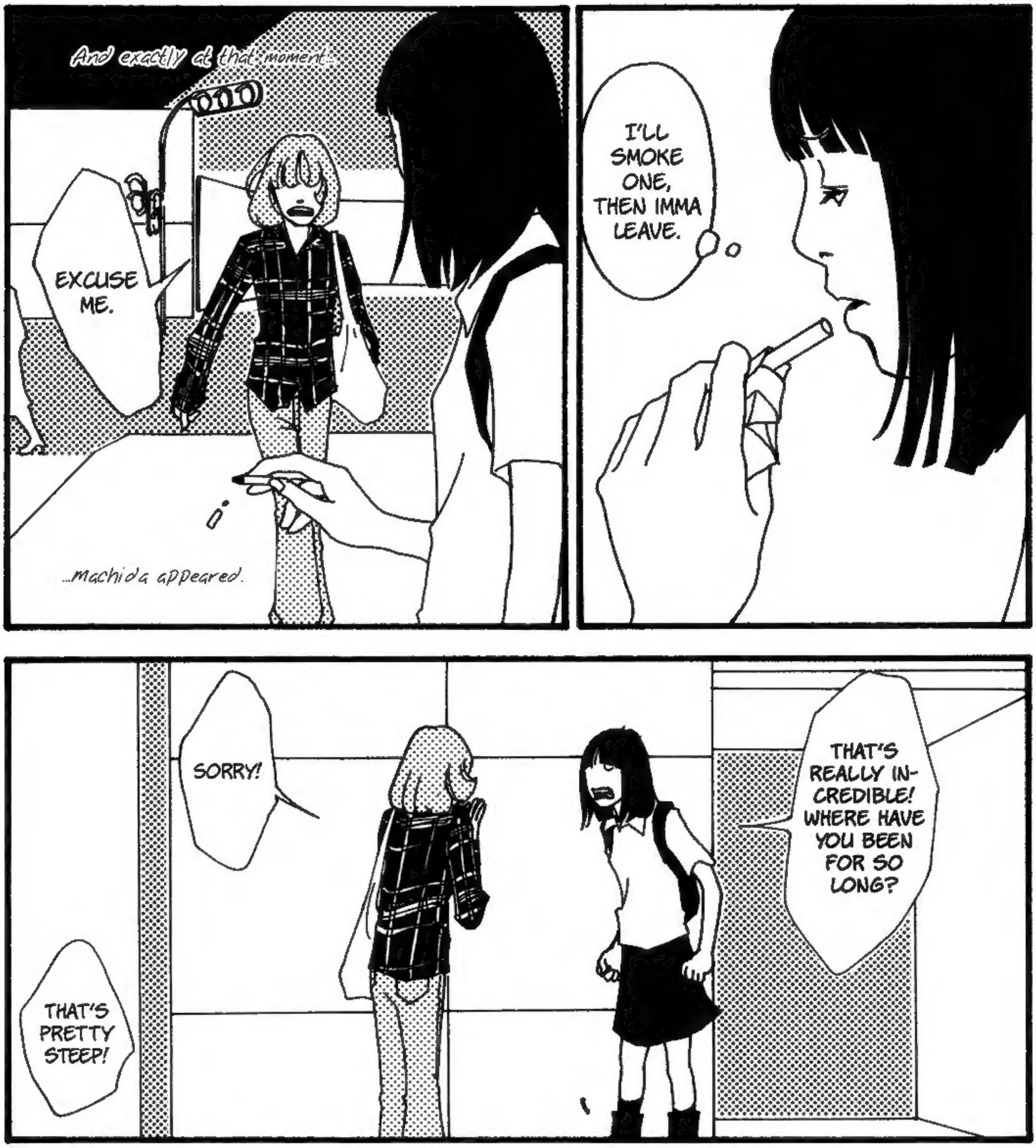
THAT'S SO SHITTY.

TO BE HONEST, I WAS LATE MYSELF.

STILL, THIS IS GOING TOO FAR!

IT'S ENOUGH; IMMA LEAVE.

ALL THIS WAITING IS SO DAMN ANNOYING.


And exactly at that moment...
EXCUSE ME.
...machida appeared.
I'LL SMOKE ONE, THEN IMMA LEAVE.
SORRY!
THAT'S PRETTY STEEP!
THAT'S REALLY IN-CREDIBLE! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN FOR SO LONG?

Does she think
I'm her bimbo?
I really hate that.

I had been 10 minutes too late,
but she made me wait for 30 minutes.
Machida was 40 minutes too late
and didn't have anything better
to say than "sorry!".

THAT'S ODD, DON'T YOU THINK SO...? BACK IN THE DAYS WE MET EVERYDAY.

YEAH, ODD.

SINCE THE EXAMS. WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR FOUR MONTH!

APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY - FOUR MONTH.

TELL ME, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?

YEAH. YOU LIKE IT?

THAT'S HARD. YOU KNOW THAT I WORK AT A ITALIAN RE-STAURANT?

NOT A BIT. I GOTTA WORK FAR TOO MUCH FOR THAT SHITTY PAY.

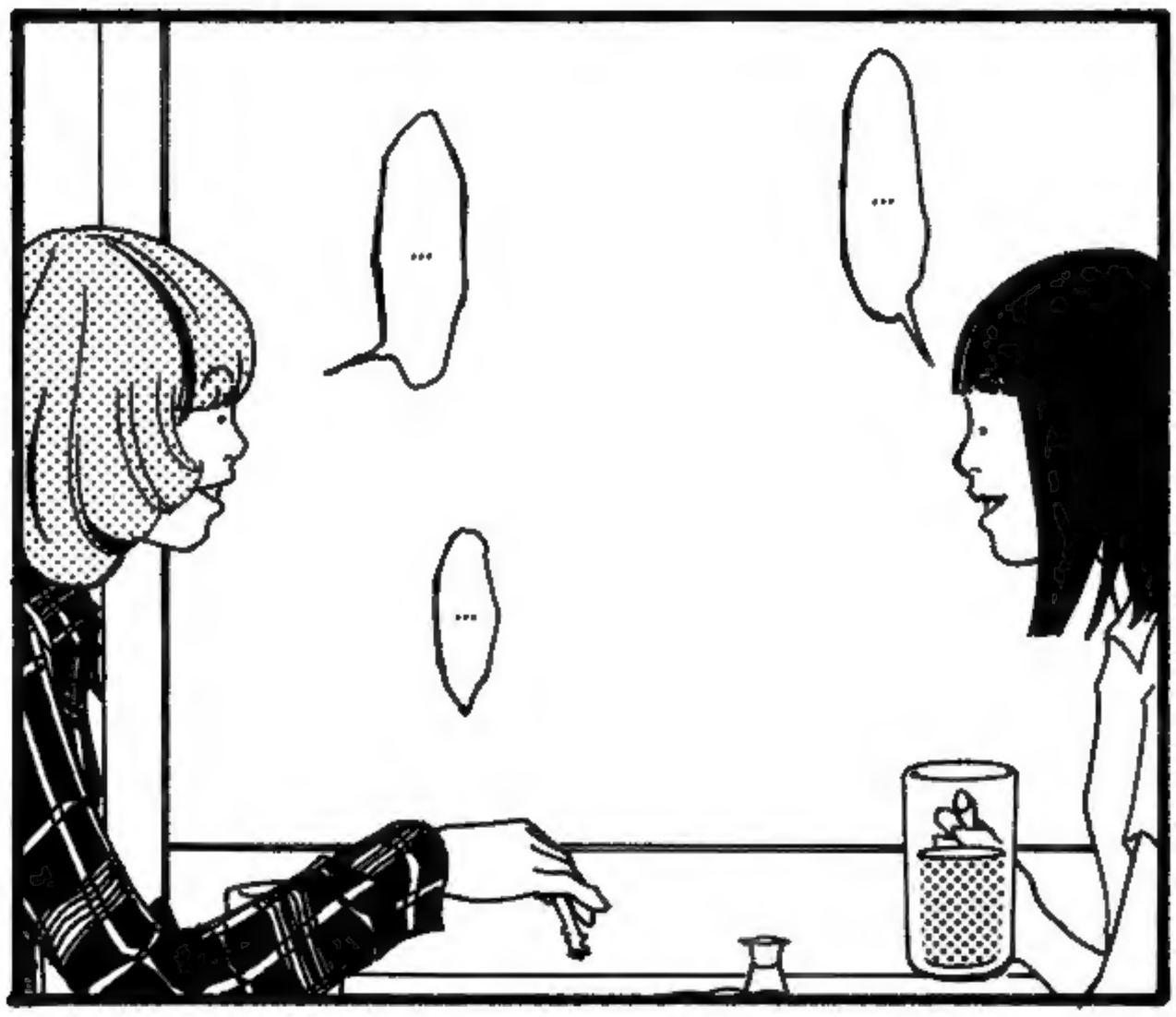
ME? OH SO-SO. I GOT A NEW JOB.

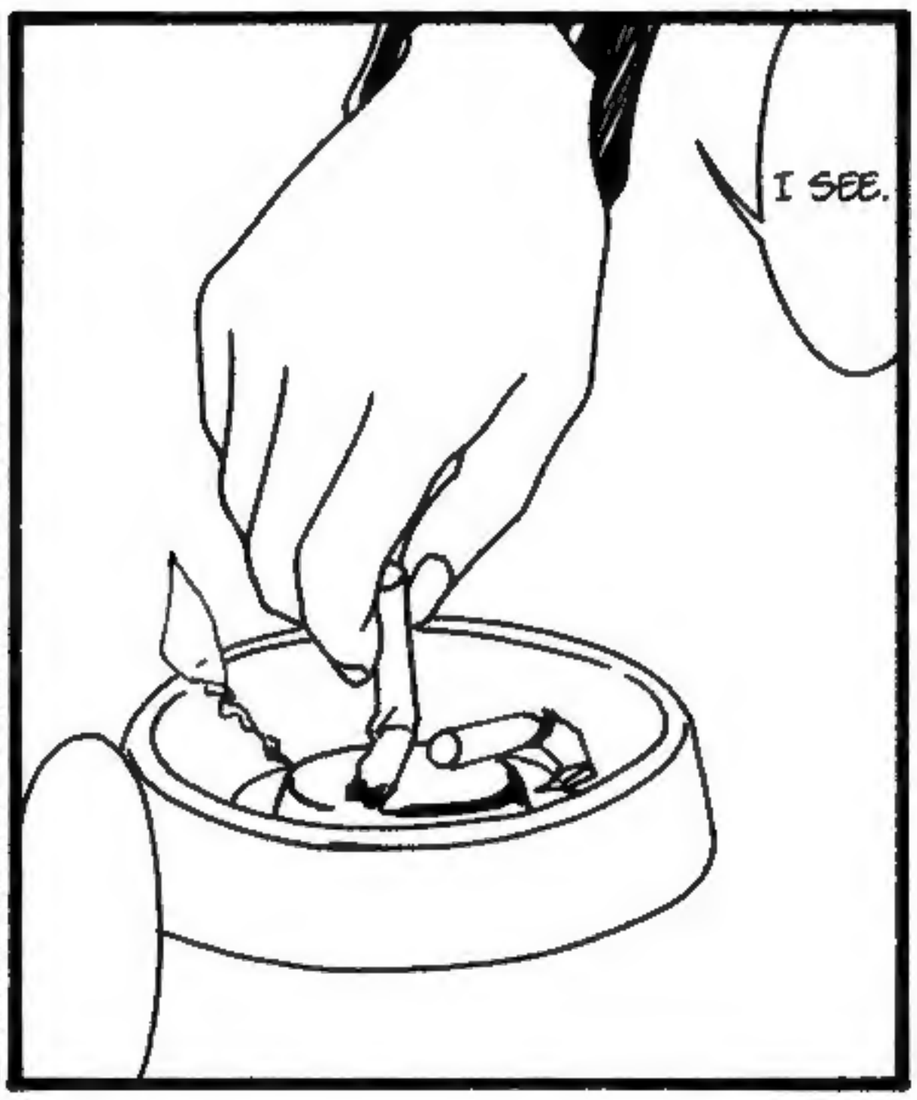
SO, HOW ARE YOU?

WHAT, ALREADY? IN AN APPAREL STORE?

YES.

BUT THE SHOP IS EMPTY MOSTLY. SOME-TIMES I CHITCHAT ALL DAY WITH THE OTHERS. THE ONLY DOWNSIDE IS THAT ONE NEEDS TO STAND ALL THE TIME.





We didn't have anything to tell each other anymore. What should I have told her...

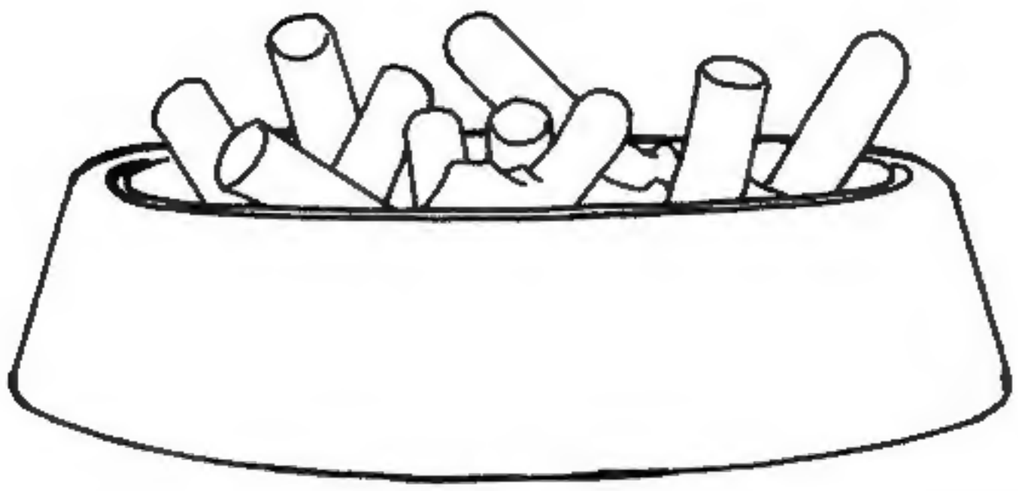
I had hoped, that Machida would get tipsy fastly and that it would get a funny evening.

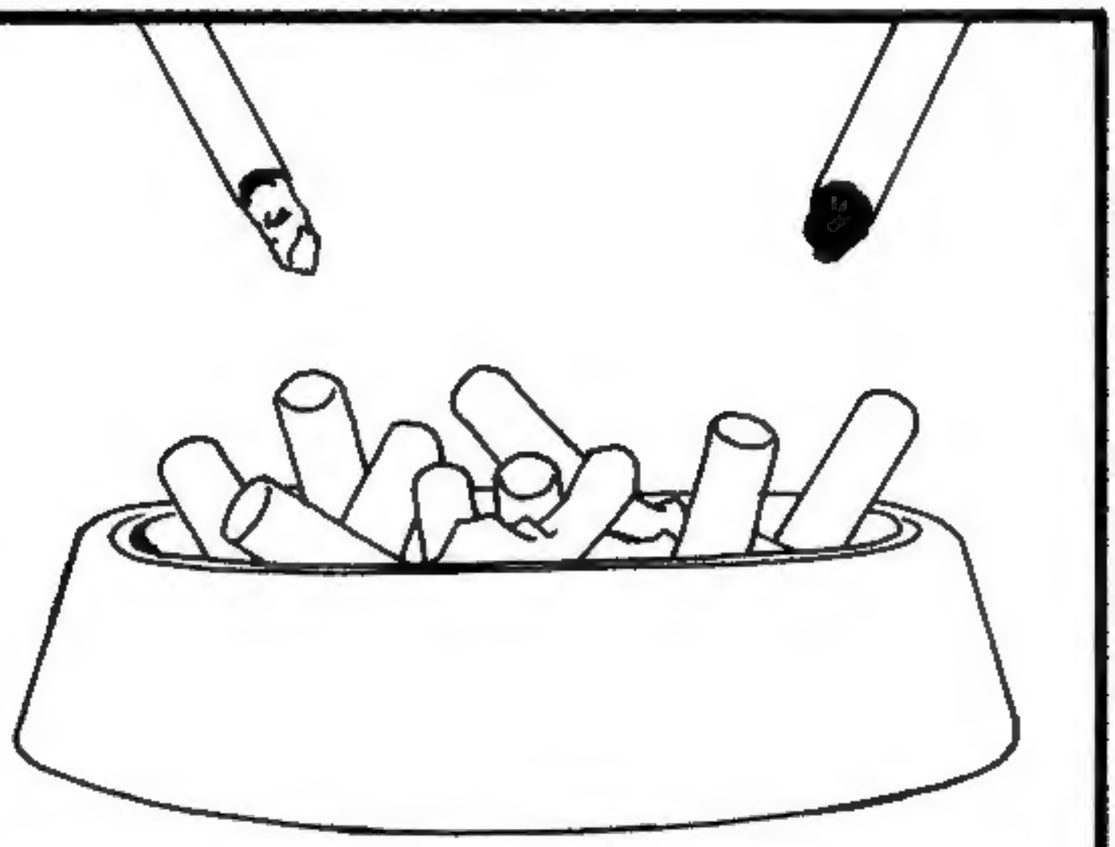
It's a bit childish to rely on alcohol. Anyway, I watched out to keep my mind sober. It was dumb, that we were checking out each other like that.

SORRY, PUT OUT YOURS FIRST.

THANKS.

OH BY THE WAY...





I'M STANDING NEXT TO NATCHO AT THE CHECKOUT ALL DAY. SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE WANTS, SHE'S STRONG.

STRONG? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

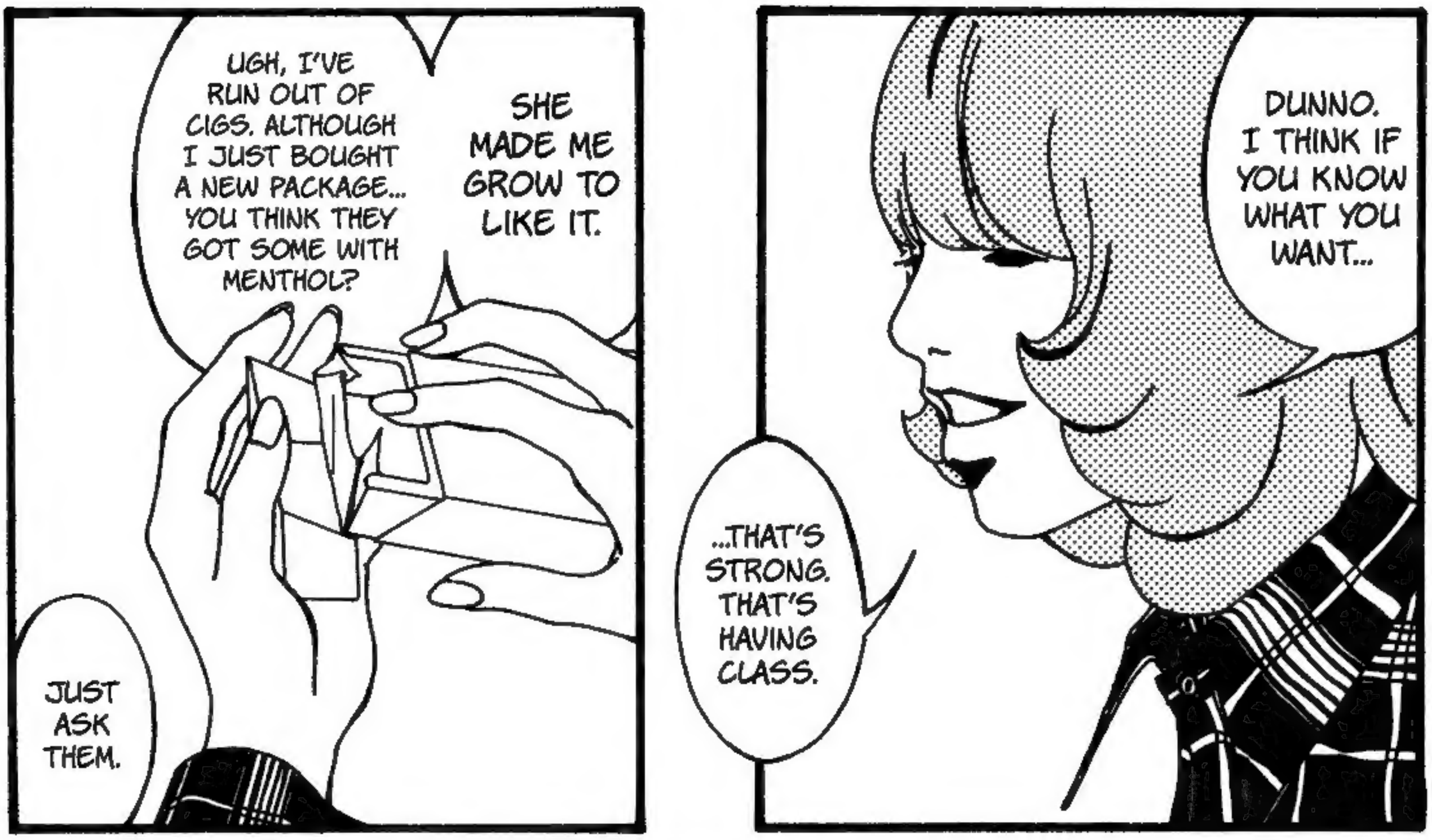
JUST COME ALONG.

YEAH, WHY NOT.

YOU LIKE THAT KIND OF MUSIC NOW?

I GOT A CO-WORKER, HER NAME IS NATCHO.

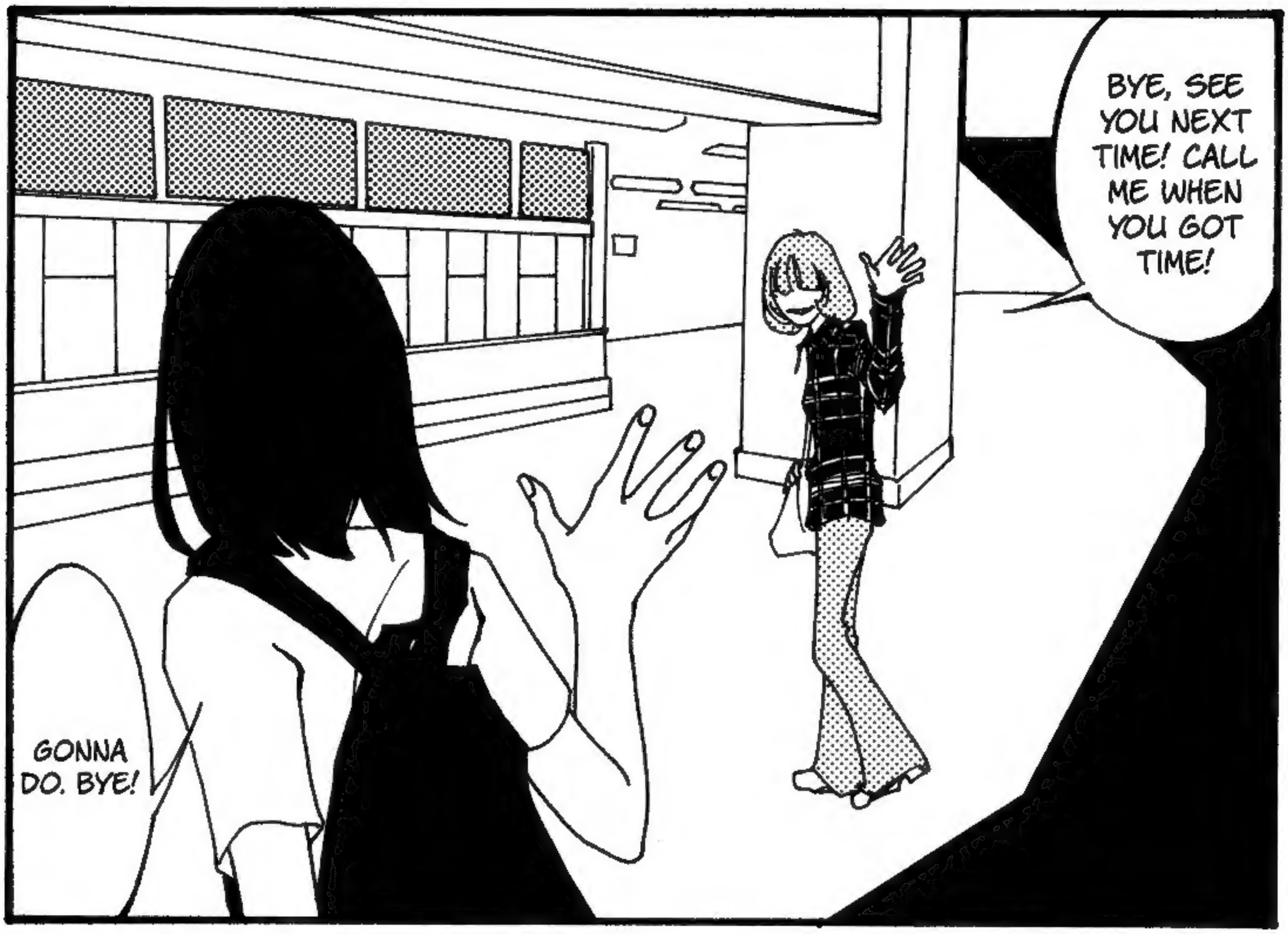
SHE ORGANIZES A 70'S PARTY, YOU'RE INTERESTED?


UGH, I'VE RUN OUT OF CIGS. ALTHOUGH I JUST BOUGHT A NEW PACKAGE... YOU THINK THEY GOT SOME WITH MENTHOL?
SHE MADE ME GROW TO LIKE IT.
JUST ASK THEM.
DUNNO. I THINK IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT...
...THAT'S STRONG. THAT'S HAVING CLASS.

Someone smoking that much, has a certain thing he doesn't wanna talk about. Our talk is totally trivial. We act so laid back and funny.

...but the cigs in the ashtray tell their own story.

Machida, you're beating around the bush. You don't like the 70's, but you got a new friend, right?



We were very fond of each other... in the past.